

Three species of Opomyzidae (Diptera: Brachycera) new for the fauna of Belgium

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Samenvatting. Drie soorten Opomyzidae (Diptera: Brachycera) nieuw voor de Belgische fauna. Gedurende het bestuderen van ± 950 Belgische Opomyzidae werden drie nog niet eerder uit België gemelde soorten aangetroffen. Het betreft *Geomyza martineki*, *G. nartshukae* en *G. venusta*. Gezien de grote onduidelijkheid rond de naam *combinata*, en het feit dat andere namen voor de soorten uit de *combinata*-groep beschikbaar zijn, wordt geadviseerd de naam *combinata* niet te gebruiken en deze ook van de Belgische checklist te verwijderen. Het totaal aantal uit België bekende soorten Opomyzidae komt hiermee op 9.

Résumé. Trois espèces d'Opomyzidae (Diptera: Brachycera) nouvelles pour la faune belge. En étudiant ± 950 exemplaires belges d'Opomyzidae, trois espèces furent trouvées qui n'étaient pas encore mentionnées précédemment de la faune belge: *Geomyza martineki*, *G. nartshukae* et *G. venusta*. Vu la grande confusion qui accompagne le nom *combinata*, et le fait qu'il y a d'autres noms disponibles pour dénommer les espèces du groupe de *combinata*, il est suggéré de ne pas employer le nom *combinata* et de le rayer de la liste belge. Ainsi, le nombre d'espèces d'Opomyzidae belges s'élève maintenant à 9.

Key words: *Geomyza martineki* – *Geomyza nartshukae* – *Geomyza venusta* – faunistics – Belgium.

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Opomyzidae are relatively small flies (2–5 mm) whose larvae live in shoots of various grasses. In Belgium, like in The Netherlands, this family has not received sufficient attention as yet.

In the last overview of the Belgian Opomyzidae (De Bruyn 1991), seven species are listed: four species are assigned to the genus *Opomyza* Fallén, 1820 (*O. florum* (Fabricius, 1794), *O. germinationis* (Linnaeus, 1758), *O. lineatopunctata* von Roser, 1840, and *O. petrei* Mesnil, 1934) and three to the genus *Geomyza* Fallén, 1810 (*G. balachowskyi* Mesnil, 1934, *G. combinata* (Linnaeus, 1767), and *G. tripunctata* Fallén, 1823).

The name *combinata* Linnaeus, 1767 has already caused a lot of confusion. This name has been used in the past (and still is used) to designate different species belonging to a species group known as the *combinata* group. At least four species (*G. balachowskyi*, *G. annae* Martinek, 1978, *G. hackmani* Nartshuk, 1984, and *G. martineki* Drake, 1992) belong to this species group. Since these four names are available, it is better to avoid usage of the name *combinata*, until the true identity of *G. combinata* is known. In Belgium and The Netherlands the name *G. combinata* is probably used for *G. balachowskyi* in most cases.

Among ca. 950 Belgian opomyzid specimens deposited in the Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen collection, some specimens of three species which have not have been recorded from Belgium before, were found: ♂, ♀ *G. venusta* (Mcigen, 1830) – Sy (Ourthe); ♂ *G. nartshukae* Carles-Tolrà, 1993 – Souverain-Wandre, a species easily confused with *G. tripunctata*; 4♂ *G. martineki* – Moorsel, Mozet, Pepinster and Rhisnes, one of the species of the *combinata* group. At present, no reliable identification key for the *combinata* group ♀♀ is available. Besides the above three species new for the Belgian fauna, all other species already known from Belgium (leaving *G. combinata* aside) were present among the studied material. Furthermore, it can be deduced from the material examined that the species strongly resembling each other, like *G. balachowskyi* and *G. martineki*, can occur at the same time at the same locality.

For the identification of most of the species occurring in Belgium and The Netherlands, the key of Drake (1993) is very useful. One has to keep in mind though that not all species occurring in Belgium and The Netherlands are covered by this key.

Therefore, it may be worthwhile to refer to publications of Carles-Tolrá (1993a, 1993b), Drake (1992), Martinek (1978), and Nartshuk (1984, 1993a, 1993b) as well.

To summarize, it should be stated that *G. martineki*, *G. nartshukae* and *G. venusta* are to be added to the faunal list of Belgium. For the time being it is advisable to remove the name *G. combinata* from this list. This brings the number of Opomyzidae known from Belgium to nine.

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